

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of enabling a ~~consumer-particular user~~ to program ~~the particular user's a~~ remote control device for use with the particular user's consumer electronics equipment ~~associated with a first appliance that is Internet-connectable~~, the method comprising:

~~enabling connecting an the first Internet-connectable~~ appliance to a server on the Internet in response to the ~~particular user consumer~~ controlling the ~~particular user's~~ remote control device, the server having an associated customer base comprising a ~~plurality of~~ respective user profiles, each ~~of the respective user profiles~~ profile identifying ~~comprising a list of one or more items of consumer electronics equipment associated with for a the respective remote control device of a respective user consumer; and~~

~~selecting, enabling at the server, to select a~~ particular one of the respective user profiles that is associated with the particular user's remote control device;

~~profile for the first download downloading from the server to the Internet-connectable first appliance, data representative of a at least one control code for use with the particular user's consumer electronics equipment; and~~

~~for using the Internet-connectable appliance for programming the being programmed into the particular user's remote control device according to the downloaded data via the first appliance according to a user profile that is associated with the remote control.~~

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a menu enabling to the particular user consumer for customizing the to manipulate the data prior to the programming of the data being programmed into the particular user's remote control device.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting a wireless signal from the enabling to program the remote control device via a wireless connection between the Internet-connectable first appliance to and the particular user's remote control device for the programming thereof.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling the particular user consumer to notify the server, through the Internet-connectable first appliance, of one or more items of the particular user's consumer electronics equipment for which to download the data representative of the at least one control code.

Claims 5 and 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:
an Internet-connectable appliance; and
a remote control device for user-control of the Internet-connectable appliance; wherein:
the remote control device has a button for causing the Internet-connectable appliance to initiate connecting to a server on the Internet;

the remote control device is programmed ~~programmable to enable sending send~~ a user profile identifying ~~comprising a list of one or more items of~~ consumer electronics equipment to the server;

the server maintains a customer base comprising a plurality of user profiles;

~~the remote control device has a button for causing the Internet-connectable appliance to initiate connecting to a specific server on the Internet; and~~

the Internet-connectable appliance programs ~~is capable of programming the~~ remote control device based on data received from the ~~specific server~~, according to the user profile associated with the remote control device.

8. (Currently amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the Internet-connectable appliance allows a user to customize the ~~manipulate the data prior to programming of~~ the remote control device.

9. (Currently amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the Internet-connectable appliance transmits a wireless signal to ~~and the remote control device communicate via a wireless connection for achieving the programming of the remote control device.~~

10. (Currently amended) The ~~system method~~ of claim 1 [7], wherein the Internet-connectable appliance comprises a set top box.

11. (Currently amended) A method of creating a customer base comprising a plurality of user profiles, the method comprising:

enabling ~~a plurality of~~ respective users of consumer electronics equipment to specify, to a server on a data network, information about the respective ~~a users' user's~~ respective consumer electronics equipment to create a plurality of respective user profiles for the customer base; enabling to program, via the data network, remote user control of the respective users' consumer electronics equipment according to the information; and storing the information in the customer base.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, ~~wherein~~ further comprising: supplying respective a remote control devices ~~device~~ for each of the respective users that is ~~are~~ pre-programmed for use with a respective set top boxes ~~box~~; wherein the method is used for subsidizing the respective set top boxes ~~box~~.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising using ~~enabling~~ ~~to use~~ the customer base to provide a customized services ~~service~~ to the respective users ~~user~~.

15. (Currently amended) A method of providing a customized service to a user of consumer electronics equipment, the method comprising:
~~using a user profile based on the user having specified to~~
receiving, at a server on a data network, information about the user's consumer electronics equipment;
providing a user profile based on the information; and

using the user profile to enable the user ~~for enabling to program~~, via the data network, a remote user-control device for controlling of the user's consumer electronics equipment;
wherein the server stores ~~storing~~ the information in a customer base comprising a plurality of user profiles, and each profile of the plurality of user profiles comprises ~~comprising~~ at least one of (1) demographic information for ~~a user~~ an associated user ~~with a remote control device~~, and (2) consumer electronics equipment information for an associated user ~~a user of the remote control~~.

16. (Currently amended) A method of enabling a user ~~consumer~~ to control ~~an a~~ particular apparatus with a remote control device via an appliance that is Internet-connectable, the method comprising:

~~enabling connecting~~ the appliance to a server on the Internet in response to the user ~~consumer~~ controlling the remote control device, the server having an associated customer base comprising a plurality of user profiles, each of the plurality of user profiles profile-identifying ~~comprising a list of one or more items of consumer electronics equipment apparatuses for an associated user the consumer~~, and

downloading from the enabling ~~the~~ the server to ~~download to the appliance~~, data representative of at least one ~~a~~ control code for control of the particular apparatus via the appliance, according to a user profile associated with the remote control device.

17. (Currently amended) An Internet-connectable appliance, comprising:
 a look-up table that is ~~programmable~~ programmed with data downloaded from a server on the Internet, the server having an associated customer base comprising a plurality of user profiles,

each of the plurality of user profiles ~~profile-identifying comprising a list of one or more consumer~~
electronics equipment for an associated user, the data being downloaded according to a user
profile associated with the remote control device;

wherein the look-up table maps a first control code, received from a remote control
device, onto a second control code for control of an apparatus via the appliance.

18. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for enabling a plurality of
respective users to create a customer base, the method comprising:

~~a compilation of a plurality of user profiles, each user profile comprising a list of one or~~
~~more items of consumer electronic equipment associated with a consumer having a remote~~
~~control device, the compilation being created by a plurality of users~~

uploading, to a server, the respective user profiles of the plurality of respective users, via
respective an Internet-connectable appliances internet-appliance associated with respective a
user's remote control devices of the plurality of respective users device; and

compiling the respective user profiles to provide the customer base;

wherein the respective user profiles identify consumer electronics equipment associated
with the respective remote control devices of the plurality of respective users.

19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the menu allows the particular user to
specify whether certain operations provided by the downloaded data are desired.

20. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the menu allows the particular user to program a single action on the particular user's remote control device to cause the execution of multiple activities of the particular user's consumer electronics equipment.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a display with a graphical representation of the particular user's remote control device for use in the programming of the particular user's remote control device.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
downloading, from the server to the Internet-connectable appliance, user interface data regarding the particular user's remote control device.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
using the Internet-connectable appliance for the programming of the particular user's remote control device according to the user interface data.

24. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
the user interface data provides information regarding features that support user interaction with the user's remote control device.